

by the Gas Industry Standards Board (GISB). On January 30, 1997, the Commission issued Order No. 587-B which it adopted some of the EDM standards for conducting business transactions over the Internet using an Internet server model. On March 4, 1997, the Commission issued Order No. 587-C which incorporated by reference 27 GISB business practices that revised and supplemented the standards adopted in Order No. 587 as well as one new communication standard. Nautilus states that the tariff sheets submitted herewith revise its tariff to comply with Order Nos. 587, 587-B and 587-C.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

**Lois D. Cashell,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP96-311-000 and CP96-311-001]

#### Williams Natural Gas Company; Notice of Meeting

October 14, 1997.

Take notice that there will be a meeting on October 22, 1997, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 71-56, between representatives of Williams Natural Gas Company (Williams) and the Commission staff. The purpose of the meeting is to review the technical details of Williams' reservoir engineering study and new operational plan for Williams' Elk City Storage Field, both of which Williams must file with the Commission by November 30, 1997.

In order that we may assess whether the seating at the designated location will be adequate, those planning to attend should notify Mr. Marc Poole, at (200) 208-0482, of the number of

representatives that you expect to send to the meeting.

**Lois D. Cashell,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-724-000]

#### NorAm Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed 1998 Line F Replacement Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 14, 1997.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the construction and operation of facilities proposed in the 1998 Line F Replacement Project.<sup>1</sup> This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

NorAm Gas Transmission Company (NGT) wants to replace an existing mainline pipeline, abandon gas storage and supply pipelines, and make mainline enhancements to its pipeline system in Louisiana. NGT states that these actions would improve the safety, reliability, and efficiency of its pipeline system. Specifically, NGT seeks authorization for the following activities in Louisiana:

- Abandon about 60 miles of 20-inch-diameter pipeline on Line F in Caddo, Bossier, Webster, Claiborne, and Lincoln Parishes and replace it with about 61 miles of 20-inch-diameter pipeline in ten segments ranging from 200 feet to 32.8 miles in length. Some portions of the pipeline to be abandoned would be removed, other portions would be left in place.
- Abandon in place Line 1-F (0.8 mile of 20-inch-diameter pipeline) and Line FT-5 (0.9 mile of 10-inch-diameter pipeline) located in Lincoln Parish.
- Reclassify about 8.2 miles of Line F as a low pressure gas supply line and operate it as part of Line F-1-F in Caddo Parish.

<sup>1</sup> NorAm Gas Transmission Company's application was filed with the Commission under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

- Abandon 63 delivery taps installed on the old Line F to deliver gas to rural customers served by Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company, and relocate 36 other delivery taps to the new Line F.

- Install pipeline maintenance facilities at the Buckley Compressor Station in Caddo Parish, the Red Chute Compressor Station in Bossier Parish, and the Ruston Storage Compressor Station in Lincoln Parish.

NGT proposes to begin construction of its facilities in June 1998. The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.<sup>2</sup> If you are interested in obtaining detailed maps of a specific portion of the project, or procedural information, please write to the Secretary of the Commission.

#### Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 855 acres of land. Following construction, about 249 acres would be maintained as new permanent right-of-way. The remaining acreage would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

NGT intends to use a up to a 85-foot-wide construction right-of-way for the installation of the replacement pipeline. Where the replacement pipeline would be parallel to the existing line, 15 to 30 feet of the construction right-of-way would be within NGT's existing right-of-way. Consequently, about 45 feet of new clearing would be required in most areas. All but the easternmost 1.8 miles of the replacement pipeline would be built adjacent to NGT's existing pipeline. In this area, 75 feet of new right-of-way would be cleared for construction.

After the replacement pipeline is in service, NGT would remove the majority of the old pipeline. Abandonment activities would take place entirely within NGT's existing 40-foot-wide right-of-way. Following construction, NGT would maintain a 40-foot-wide permanent right-of-way.

Additional temporary work space would be required adjacent to the planned construction right-of-way at road and stream crossings. These areas would vary in size between 4,000 and 168,000 square feet.

#### The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.